



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.1758 | FAX (517) 373.0938
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/cassis/

For Immediate Release
December 19, 2003

Contact: Tom Davis
517-373-1758

Cassis bill makes Milford landfill eligible for cleanup funds *SB 718 goes to governor for approval*

Lansing – The Michigan Legislature has approved Senate Bill 718, which would make municipalities eligible for access to brownfield cleanup funds through the Brownfield Redevelopment Financing Act, Sen. Nancy Cassis (R-Novi) announced.

Cassis introduced SB 718 after hearing from both the Village and Township of Milford, as well as residents, who were asking for help in identifying funds to clean up contamination from a closed landfill.

In the 1930s, the local governments entered into an operating agreement for the regional landfill, which closed more than 25 years ago.

“This was at a time when the environmental and health dangers of certain waste products were not yet known, and the landfill was built far away from what was then populated areas,” Cassis stated. “The area has grown significantly in population and the contaminated area is a concern.”

SB 718 allows a municipality with potential liability to be able to capture taxes for environmental clean-up.

“The village of Milford greatly appreciates Senator Cassis’ sponsorship and hard work on this Senate bill and Representative Ward’s assistance in House passage,” said Ron Fowkes, Milford Village president. “Passage of Senate Bill 718 is invaluable in Senator Cassis’ commitment to help our communities ensure the health, safety and well-being of our residents.”

“Our intent has been to assist and serve our municipal governments in their efforts to clean up properties that may have been contaminated generations ago,” Cassis said.

The bill now goes to the governor.

###